houses themselves may overflow, or be broken into and their contents scattered. That one kind of plant should supersede another, or that one kind should grow so vigorously as to choke out all others, is merely an illustration of the "survival of the fittest." —MRS. J. M. MILLIGAN.

SOME LARGE WALNUTS.—In the GAZETTE I see notes occasionally of unusually large growths. The following may be of interest in this connection. A small *Juglans nigra*, about six inches in diameter and about twenty feet high, bore three pecks of fruit, which average near 11½ inches in circumference, and 10¾ ounces in weight. The tree grows in a field, and has no unusual appearance, except the fruit, which looks more like that of the Osage Orange.—DR. J. SCHNECK, *Mt. Carmel, Ill.*

THE RANGE OF THE COMMON HUCKELBERRY IN MISSOURI.—The common huckelberry is not found north of a certain N. E. and S. W. line. Its northern extension is a follows: I have found it on Cuivre bluffs near Troy, Lincoln Co.; also in the northwest part of St. Charles county; on Missouri bluffs as far west as Jefferson City; near Versailles in Morgan county; at Clinton, in Henry county; and in Jasper county; thence it passes southwestward. It is invariably found on either flinty or sandy soil, or where there is but little soil. It abounds chiefly in the pine region of South-eastern Missouri. —PROF. G. C. BROADHEAD.

SOME NEW STATIONS.—The neighboring county of Clark bids fair to equal Jefferson in the number of its good plants. When it is thoroughly worked up we hope to be able to report many rare things, but those enumerated below are worthy of special mention. While doing some field work last May with one of the College classes, Mr. Chas. R. Barnes called my attention to an odd little Crucifer clinging to the edges of some shaly limestone bluffs. The plant seemed to have suppressed every other part for the benefit of its enormons pods, which were more than half as long as all the rest, and a much more noticeable object than the inconspicuous lyrate root leaves. The little stranger proved to be *Leavenworthia Michauxii*, Torr., growing there in sufficient abundance to satisfy the rapacity of even a botanist possessed of the mania for exchanging. Within a few miles of the above, later in the season, Mr. John F. Baird, collected some fine specimens of *Sullivantia Ohionis*, T. & G., and reported that it was growing in greater abundance even than at Clifty Falls, the habitat of specimens that are to be found in very many of the herbaria of the land. Of course it was growing upon damp limestone cliffs, sending its roots down into the soft, spongy moss. Mr. Baird also collected specimens of *Cleome pungens*, Willd., that to all appearances were perfectly naturalized.—J. M. C.

BOTANICAL EXCURSIONS, No. 1, BY J. G. LEMMON.—THE GREAT BASIN.—The great basin of America is the bed of the evaporated Mediterranean sea of the western continent. Situated on the same parallels as its Eastern prototype, bordered like that on all sides with high ranges of mountains, it differs from it in two particulars, which render the one a very salt sea and the other a very salty desert.

The Mediterranean sea fills a deep chasm in the earth's crust 2,000 to 6,000 feet deep; lying between 30 deg. and 46 deg. north lat., and almost constantly swept by the dry winds of the great Sahara, its waters are evaporated at an immense rate, which would, ages ago, have emptied its basin but for the other important fact, the Strait of Gibraltar, through which a strong current ever comes from the ocean; and this, in addition to the mighty rivers which empty into the sea, and all to restore the equilibrium disturbed by evaporation. To this evaporation—this lifting of a sea into the air—is Europe indebted, mainly, for its exceeding fertility. The dry South wind is a sponge which takes up the waters of the Mediterranean and, condensed by the cold summits of the mountains of Europe, showers its waters over the plains. To this fact also is due the intense saltiness of the Mediterranean, for salt is the residuum of evaporation.